

Amendments to the Specification:

Page 5, lines 18-30 through page 6, lines 1-22, replace the two paragraphs with:

In accordance with the present invention, relatively permanent lubrication of operating parts of the paint ball marker comprises one or more of (1) hardening selected parts, (2) applying a solid lubricious material to selected parts by adhering, inserting, plating, embedding or impregnating a metal, chemical compound, ~~a~~ element polymer and a ceramic onto and/or into all surfaces of the paint ball marker and its parts, where contact and relative motion occurs and strengthens ~~the marker or its surfaces to create a stronger substrate, which the lubricant adheres to or is bound with~~. This would include covering and/or making the entire part out of metals, chemicals, polymers or ceramics that reduce friction between mating, moving parts, increase chemical resistance, reduce wear, increase hardness of the parts and increase their lubricity. Thus, metals, such as nickel, silver, steel, zinc, cobalt, titanium, copper, gold, molybdenum, magnesium etc., can be applied as a permanent lubricant as long as they provide any of the following: ~~Reduce~~ reduce friction, increase chemical resistance, reduce wear, increase hardness and increase lubricity; Non-metals, such as Teflon®, graphite, phosphorous, carbon, sulfur, any number of polymers or a suitable ceramic, can also be applied as solid, greaseless lubricants. Said lubricants of the type described are able to withstand loads in excess of 250,000 psi and are capable of lubricating over a wide range of temperatures, where conventional greases and oils are rendered ineffective.

As used herein, "lubricants" ~~consist of~~ may comprise any coated part or solid a part of a material that would reduce friction with a mating part and/or prevent corrosion and oxidation in or on the moving parts of the paint ball marker. The solid lubricants and may be coated, adhered, inserted, overlaid, plated, embedded or impregnated in or on the marker for prolonged periods of use. Specifically excluded as a paint ball gun lubricant, as used herein, are oils and greases. The solid lubricants contemplated by the present invention cover the metal surface to fill in rough areas caused by machining, extruding or

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casting. They protect those rough edges from coming in contact with each other and with the paint ball projectile. These lubricants can also be dry so that dirt and other contaminants do not mix or adhere with the lubricants. These lubricating materials, while not entirely permanent, function to provide a lubricious interface for a significantly longer time than do most greases and oils heretofore used. When materials are permanently or semi-permanently bonded, embedded or fused to the marker and its parts, the solid lubricant is smoother, harder, slicker, stronger and more lubricious than most oils/greases, therefore, causing less friction for extended periods. This prevents marker freeze, material wear, jamming from contamination, parts failure, premature rupture of the paint ball projectile and damage to the marker.

Page 10, lines 19-21, replace the paragraph with the following:

Other components that are useful solid lubricants for paint ball markers include boron nitride, polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE), ultra high molecular weight (uhmw) polyethylene talc, calcium fluoride, cerium fluoride and tungsten disulfide.

Page 11, lines 3-6, replace the paragraph with the following:

The lamellar structure of graphite and M_2S_2 M_0S_2 orient parallel to the sliding surface resulting in high bearing-load combined with a low shear stress. Most applications in metal forming that involve plastic deformation can benefit from the use of solid lubricants.